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July 8, 1904 1388

Report from Bocas del Toro, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Osterhout reports as follows:

Week ended June 16, 1904. Population not obtainable. Number of deaths, 2. Prevailing diseases, malarial fevers.

General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country

during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Vessel.	Destination.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage.
June 10 12 16 16	Mount Vernon Taunton Fort Morgan Baker	New Orleans, La Mobile, Ala	24	0 0 2 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 6 0

PERU.

Reports from Callao—Plague in rats found on steamship Limari bacteriologically confirmed.

Assistant Surgeon Lloyd reports, June 4, as follows:

Provisional diagnosis of plague in the case of the rats which were found dying on board the steamship *Limari*, as reported to you in previous communications, has been bacteriologically confirmed.

Plague situation in Peru—Vessels for other than United States ports not fumigated.

Consul Gottschalk reports, June 4, as follows:

There are at present 5 cases of plague in the lazaretto in Callao. In Lima there have been 13 cases during the week ended May 28. Callao is merely a business suburb of Lima, connected by constant traffic by trains, as well as by cart road, with the latter city. This feature will be further accentuated within a few days by the inauguration of an electric tramway between the two places. The respectable element of the population in Callao is almost entirely a floating one, residing in Lima and doing business in Callao. Three or four good families (officials, generally) are obliged to live here; the rest of the population is composed of workmen on the docks and railroads and their families; the bulk of the population, one may say, is the element generally found in the water fronts of large cities. * * * A town such as this is necessarily unsanitary. * * *

While this consulate, through the Marine-Hospital surgeon stationed here, issues bills of health to vessels for Panama and the United States after proper fumigations have been performed, no vessels leaving here for any other countries and none of the vessels for Peruvian coastwise traffic are fumigated in any way. It is not illogical to deduce from this that the spread of plague to other places in Peru is almost sure to take place.

On April 30, as already communicated to you, our agency at Paita cabled me reporting the presence of plague at that port. While there has been talk in Lima of sending supplies and sanitary physicians to Paita, nothing that I can ascertain has as yet been done. This morn-